



Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

October 7, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the privilege of knowing Rev. Tony Lorenzen for the past two and a half years and in three different capacities as minister, mentor and colleague.

I am a member of Pathways Unitarian Universalist Church. I have been a member long enough to experience the transitions of the first minister, our interim minister and then the arrival of Tony. Tony has been an able and competent minister combining compassionate pastoral care and an emphasis on social outreach. Tony demonstrates a commitment to learning and bringing best practices of ministry and governance to the congregation. Tony leads vibrant worship services mixing well the aspects of the head and heart that so many people are seeking. Tony officiated my wedding in 2010 receiving many complements from people who commented on his meaningful and inspiring prayer, his appropriate use of humor and light-heartedness, and his ability to craft rituals that more fully brought everyone into the experience.

Two years ago I participated in a year-long Wellspring program that Tony facilitated. It was a spiritual deepening program that cultivated a sense of Unitarian Universalist identity and that gave us profound opportunities to practice ministry in our small group. During this time a member of the group experienced the unexpected death of his infant daughter. Tony brought that group member to the group just two days later and facilitated a meaningful opportunity for the group to care for this member and for this member to grieve in our care. I have never before and not since experienced such a deep sense of vulnerability and care within a group. It was only possible because of the leadership and modeling that Tony provided throughout that year to the group and because Tony had the wisdom to encourage this group member to grieve in our care.

Tony has also been a supportive shepherd to me as I navigated the fellowshiping process of the UUA. Tony offered assistance, guidance and support every step of the way and was instrumental in the coordination and planning of my ordination at Pathways UU Church. He also helped the congregation to understand their role in ordination and to fully understand and embrace the importance of that act and the responsibilities inherent in it.

In the last year, Tony has become my colleague. Our congregations are forty minutes apart and Tony and I have worked together and supported one another in various ways. Tony is gift to our local and district ministerial gatherings. He often invites us back to a recognition of whose voice is not being represented and inviting the group to consider new perspectives.

Tony would be an asset to any congregation that is ready to engage in social justice and in faith deepening and I wholeheartedly recommend him. Please feel free to be in contact with me if you would like me to share more. I am honored to have worked with him in so many capacities and would welcome the opportunity to talk more about my recommendation for his ministry.

In faith,

Rev. Pamela Wat

Rev. Pamela Wat, Consulting Minister

1111 Cordell Street, Denton, TX 76201 940 566 1286

www.dentonuuf.org minister@dentonuuf.org